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SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Is it not a fact that the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) has stated that the retrenchment effected in Neiveli is against the rules and against the Mines Act and that they should not proceed with retrenchment?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The hon. Deputy Leader of the Opposition may claim to possess all the information about what has passed between the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) and this Government. But I can at once say that the information which he seeks to give is absolutely incorrect. As I have already stated, I cannot say anything about the correspondence at this stage."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" In view of the different opinion held by the Labour Commissioner (Central)—whatever may be the facts—will the Government consider the desirability of taking back all the workers retrenched?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not concede that there is any difference of opinion and I cannot give an assurance that I can take back all the retrenched workers. The hon. Member may perhaps be aware that one of his colleagues has sent an interpellation to the Parliament which would be taken care of by the Government of India."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" Sir, I fail to understand why a communication which has already been sent should not be revealed to this honourable House. May I know whether it is a confidential thing which will affect public interests?" 8-40 a.m.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, it is a reference by the Regional Labour Commissioner to the General Superintendent of the Neiveli Project and the General Superintendent has offered his remarks on this reference and it is under the examination of this Government. At this stage, the Government do not consider it advisable to reveal all that is passing between the two departments."

Death of cattle in Tiruvallur

* 916 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" As the hon. Member Sri M. Dharmalingam is not in his place the question and answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a large number of cattle died because of a wide-spread attack of cattle disease in Tiruvallur taluk recently;

(*b*) if so, the number of cattle which died during the months of October, November and December 1954; and

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(c) whether it is a fact that there was avoidable delay in taking preventive measures?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) There was a large number of attacks of blackquarter and hæmorragic septicæmia in some villages of Tiruvallur taluk.

" (b) The number of cattle which died during the period was 147.

" (c) There was no avoidable delay in taking preventive measures by the staff of the Animal Husbandry department."

Deposit for consumption of electricity

* 917 Q.—SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have issued any orders to the local authorities of the Electricity department to collect additional security deposits for the consumption of electric power by agriculturists; and

(b) whether any deputation of the agriculturists of Coimbatore district waited on the Government recently and presented a memorandum to the Government expressing their grievances and praying for immediate redress?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) From July 1954, security deposits are collected from agricultural consumers on the basis of two months consumption charges, instead of three months consumption charges collected previously. There is a provision in the agreements executed by the consumers that the Electricity department may renew or replenish from time to time such security deposits, in the event of the same becoming exhausted or insufficient. Under this provision, the Superintending Engineers may have, where circumstances warranted such a course, issued notices demanding additional security deposit. Apart from this provision, the Government have not issued any instructions to collect additional security deposit from agricultural consumers.

" (b) The Coimbatore District Agriculturists' Association represented some grievances to the Government in March 1954 and the Government have taken suitable action on them."

SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM :—" இந்த அடிஷனல் செக்யூரிடி டெபாசிட்டை இப்பொழுது எந்த விவசாயிகளும் கொடுக்க முடியாத நிலையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். இப்போது அவைகளை வசூல் செய்வதை நிறுத்திவிட்டு கொஞ்ச நாளைக்குப் பிறகு வசூல் செய்தால் நலமாகயிருக்கும். இதற்கு அரசாங்கம் உத்திரவிடுவார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, we have not asked for any additional